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## Original Communications.

### THE LAST DAYS OF POPE BONIFACE VIII.

MUCH of the dreary strife, and many of the startling crimes which swell the history of the middle ages, grew out of the arrogant pretensions of the bishops of Rome. They claimed to exercise a controlling power over all the kings of Christendom. The success of the experiment made on the wretched English tyrant

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John, was through the succeeding century often proudly held up *in terrorem* to refractory princes; and their priest ridden subjects could not but shudder at the awful consequences which their fathers reported to them resulted from a papal interdict being laid on an offending nation. Hence the Popes were emboldened, in furtherance of their own sordid views, to interfere with the internal arrangements of every kingdom, and it was often done in a manner which set at naught the authority of the king, and

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at the same time injured his finances. Out of these circumstances the most fearful discord arose. The Pope was used by the monarchs of that time to forward every evil design they formed, and to relieve them from any oath they might have sworn, when its observance became inconvenient; but when they touched the patronage and profits of the king, he usually appealed to his Parliament or Barons to resist such interference as unlawful, and not to be endured.

Pope Boniface the Eighth, when more than fourscore years of age, was ambitious of filling the holy seat with vigour. He thought proper to nominate certain parties to bishoprics in France, as a matter of right, without troubling himself to obtain the king's consent. Philippe the Fourth, indignant at this proceeding, resolved to make head against the haughty representative of St Peter; and accordingly, on the occasion of one Bernard Saissetti, a creature of his own, being made bishop of Pamiers by Boniface, Philippe caused the new prelate to be arrested in the night, and sent him to prison under a charge of treason, heresy, and blasphemy. The rest of the story, the remarkable struggle between the king and the Pope, we copy from 'The Pictorial History of France,' to which we lately called the attention of our readers. The animated representation of the strange affront put upon the proud Pontiff is one of the admirable engravings (four hundred in number) which illustrate that interesting work.

"Boniface remonstrated against this outrage and violence in a bull known in history by its opening words 'Ansculta, fili,' in which he asserted his power 'over nations and kingdoms, to root out and pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant,' and concluded by informing Philippe that he had summoned all the superior clergy of France to an assembly at Rome on the 1st of the following November, in order to deliberate on the remedies for such abuses as those of which the king had been guilty. Philippe, by no means intimidated by this measure, convoked a full and early assembly of the three estates of his kingdom, to decide upon the conduct of him whom the orthodox, up to that time, had been in the habit of deeming infallible. This [10th April, 1303] was the first meeting of a Parliament, properly so called, in France. It was held in the church of Notre Dame de Paris, in separate chambers—each order deliberating apart, and all being dissolved at the close of a single day. In these assemblages the question at issue between the king and the Pope at once became a national one. The chambers unanimously approved and applauded the conduct of

the king, and resolved to maintain the honour of the crown and the nation from foreign insult or domination; and to mark their decision more conclusively, they concurred with the sovereign in prohibiting the clergy from attending the Pope's summons to Rome. The papal bull was burned as publicly as possible—the act being proclaimed with trumpets through the streets of Paris, after having been read and explained to the wondering people. The Pope, alarmed at these novel and bold proceedings, sought instantly to avert their consequences by soothing explanations; but Philippe would not now be turned aside from his course. He summoned a convocation of the Gallican prelates, in which by the mouth of William de Nogaret, his chancellor, he represented the occupier of St Peter's chair as the father of lies and an evil-doer; and he demanded the seizure of this pseudo-pope, and his imprisonment until he could be brought before a legitimate tribunal to receive the punishment due to his numerous crimes.

"Boniface now declared that the French king was excommunicated, and cited him by his confessor to appear in the papal court at Rome within three months, to make submission and atonement for his contumacy. Philippe, however, caused the bearers of this missive to be waylaid and imprisoned; and published a formal accusation of the Pope, in which that venerable father was charged with the grossest and most absurd crimes. A war of documents ensued, in which the king, the pontiff, the barons, the cardinals, the people and the priesthood all took part, in a manner which certainly threatened to produce a premature dissolution of the unity of the Catholic church. While this unseemly quarrel, however, seemed to be growing interminable in its complexities, the daring of a few men opened a shorter path to its end than could have been anticipated.

"William of Nogaret associating to him Sciarra Colonna, a noble Roman, who, having been driven from his native city by Boniface, and subjected to various hardships, had found refuge in Paris, passed, with a train of three hundred horsemen, and a much larger body of picked infantry, secretly into Italy, with the intention of surprising the Pope at his summer residence in his native town of Anagni, and repeating upon his person the outrage that had been practised upon the Bishop of Pamiers. Boniface, it was known, had prepared another bull maintaining that 'as vicar of Jesus Christ he had power to govern kings with a rod of iron, and to dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel;' and he had appointed the 8th of September, 1303, the anniversary

of the nativity of the Virgin, for its promulgation. It was so arranged, therefore, that the attack should be made on the 7th, and accordingly at about seven in the morning of that day, Nogaret and Colonna with their supporters, bearing the banners of France, rushed into Anagni, shouting 'Success to the King of France—Death to Pope Boniface!' The papal palace was captured after a feeble resistance, and the cardinals and personal attendants of the Pontiff fled for their lives. Boniface, however, seeing that no means of retreat for himself had been left open, prepared to sustain with becoming dignity the last outrage his enemies could inflict. 'Since I am betrayed,' he cried, 'as my Saviour was betrayed, I will at least die as befits a Pope.' He then clothed himself in his official vestments, with the mantle of St Peter on his shoulders, the crown of Constantine on his head, and the keys and cross in his hands; and seated himself in the pontifical throne. Sciarra Colonna was the first who penetrated to his presence; and he, when he beheld the venerable form and composed bearing of the old man, who had attained his eighty-sixth year, seemed suddenly to relent in his fiercer purpose, and his revenge did not prompt him to more than verbal insult. Nogaret followed, and approaching the Pope with some external show of respect, informed him that he must at once prepare himself to be present at the council, forthwith to be summoned on the subject of his misconduct. The Pope replied firmly to his captor—'William of Nogaret, from thee and such as thee—a heretic and the son of a line of heretics, who have atoned for their errors in the flames—I can patiently endure any indignity.'

"The Condottieri engaged in this enterprise, then dragged the Pope from his throne, and conveying him into the street, mounted him upon a lean horse without saddle or bridle, with his head to the animal's tail, and thus conducted him in a sort of pilgrimage through the town. He was then consigned prisoner to one of the chambers of his palace and placed under guard; while the body of his captors dispersed themselves through the splendid apartments in eager pursuit of plunder. Three days were thus occupied; but at the end of that time the aggressors found a resistance they seem never to have calculated upon. The people of Anagni, by whom the pontiff appears to have been beloved, having recovered from the panic of their first surprise, and discovered the weakness of the assailing force, took arms in behalf of their fellow-townsmen and spiritual father, and falling upon the French while still indulging in the licence of the sack, drove Nogaret and Colonna from their quarters,

and either expelled or massacred the whole of their followers.

"But though they were thus enabled to restore the aged Boniface to freedom, they could not heal his wounded honour. Rendered furious by the disgrace of his captivity, he hastened from Anagni to Rome, breathing vows and threats of vengeance. The violence of his passion, however, speedily overpowered his reason, and he sunk at once into abject imbecility. His eyes were haggard, his mouth white with foam, and he gnashed his teeth in silence. He passed the day without nourishment and the night without repose; and refused to allow any attendant to enter his chamber to offer him food or consolation. After an interval, his domestics burst into his apartment, and there beheld his body stretched on the bed stiff and cold. The staff which he had carried bore the marks of his teeth, and was covered with foam. His white locks were stained with blood—produced probably by some violence of the French soldiers—and his head was so closely wrapped in the counterpane that he was believed to have anticipated his end by violence and suffocation [11th October, 1303]."

#### THE SHIRTLESS HAPPY MAN.

*From the German of Langbein.*

East on his couch, oppress with grief and pain,  
A monarch lay, nor thought to rise again;  
No help he found in powder, draught, or pill,  
So sad his case,—it mock'd the doctors' skill;  
On him a fierce disease was seen to sport,  
Which baffled both the council and the court.

The scenes of pleasure were no longer gay,  
Their doors were clos'd, and fiddles ceas'd to play;

A decent sorrow in the halls was seen,  
And sad regret was stamp'd on ev'ry mien;  
From Paris too, 'tis confidently said,  
They order'd mourning as for one that's dead.

The royal jester, faithful to his post,  
Was there, but seem'd as tho' his tongue were lost;

E'en he, who chatter'd at no common rate,  
As ever like a starling he would prate,  
'Midst doctors, like a ninny, silent stood,  
Or some rude satyr in his saddest mood.

But suddenly the jester silence broke,—  
Fair speech unlock'd his lips, and thus he spoke:—

"Ye big-wigg'd fellows useful are indeed  
To those in health, who never med'cine need,  
"But, spite of Greek and Latin, they must fall  
"Whom ghastly Death commands,—who summons all."

"E'en now before your wondering eyes you see

"His powerful grasp,—he spares not majesty;  
"To seize your potent king he's not afraid,—  
"Your vain attempts he scorns, and mocks your aid:

"Begone! I know a warrior of renown  
 "Prepared to fight, and drive him from th  
 town."

"Not one of you with him compar'd can be,  
 "So great his power,—a noted wizard he;  
 "Able to cast out wicked sprites he's found,  
 "And thus he's known to all the country  
 round;  
 "His words are true, his prophecies are sure,  
 "And he has wrought full many a wond'rout  
 cure."

"'Tis arrant nonsense all. What knows a  
 fool!"

Exclaim'd a Doctor of the learned school;  
 "Hold! silence," said the king, "attend to  
 me,

"He is my faithful servant known to be.  
 "Now John my jester, ne'er the doctors heed,  
 "Be off, and bring thy sorcerer with speed!"

Hard by a neighb'ring fence that clos'd a  
 wood,

In humble guise, the sorcerer's cottage stood;  
 And tho' the wizard tott'ring was, and lame,  
 He hand in hand with John the jester came;  
 Advanc'd in years, like Nestor he appear'd,  
 And show'd, like him, a flowing silver beard.

The king with hearty welcome—in distress  
 And feeble voice, exclaim'd, "You're come to  
 bless!

"Hail, worthy prophet, surely such are you,  
 "Now freely speak your mind, and tell me  
 true,

"Must I on you for added years depend,  
 "Or from my throne into the grave descend?"

"I cannot speak at once," replied the sage,  
 "As I must with the glitt'ring stars engage;  
 "In solemn silence I am bound to ask  
 "Yon rolling orbs, ere I perform the task;  
 "But, ere the sun shall gild the eastern sky,  
 "The truth will I declare,—to live or die."

Then went the wizard on his own affairs,  
 And left awhile the monarch to his cares;  
 But, on the morrow, back the sorcerer came,  
 The truth, as he had promised, to proclaim;  
 He bore a book of riddles in his hand,  
 Which none on earth, but him, could under-  
 stand.

"My lord," said he, "Death stands in dread  
 array,

"And fiercely seeks to take your life away;  
 "Yet, in a twinkling, health you may secure,  
 "If anyhow you can a shirt procure,—  
 "A shirt of mortal, it must here be shown,  
 "Who never aught but happiness has known."

The courtiers laughed;—a whisper went  
 around,

"Was e'er before so great a madman found!"  
 The anxious monarch differ'd from the rest,  
 And thus he his prime minister address'd,—  
 "To you alone the task belongs, Count Stirt,—  
 "The only man are you to get the shirt!"

"But prithee why so thoughtful and so pale  
 "You boast, e'en now, your services avail  
 "My kingdom to enrich,—and thro' the land  
 "Is surely seen full many a happy band;  
 "If then so many there are known to be,  
 "One you will find, if only one, for me!"

Thus said the king,—the statesman left the  
 place

With downcast looks, as in a hopeless case;  
 Straight to his study he repair'd, and there  
 In silent sadness, mourned the whole affair;  
 Ten grey-goose quills were cut in haste, and  
 then

This proclamation issued from his pen.

"Be't known to all that Death, with eager  
 strife,

"His power exerts to rob us of our life;  
 "But still a prophet says, in language plain,  
 "Anon we should at once our health regain,  
 "If wrapp'd within a shirt, it can be shown,  
 "Of one who naught but happiness has  
 known."

"To such as know nor pain nor grief we send,  
 "Requiring them such garment straight to  
 lend;

"How coarse we heed not, it must here be  
 told,—

"The rightful owner shall be paid in gold;  
 "And more than this, whate'er his station, he  
 "To highest honours shall promoted be."

Scarce had this proclamation issued been,  
 Or scarcely dry, but thro' the town 'twas seen;  
 On ev'ry house and wall 'twas plac'd with  
 speed,

And folks with outstretch'd necks were there  
 to read;

All said, or seem'd to say, they had excuse,  
 As nothing of the kind they could produce.

(To be continued.)

#### STEAM ELECTRICITY.

In the month of October, 1840, Mr Arm-  
 strong communicated to Professor Faraday  
 the following:—"A few days ago I was  
 informed that a very extraordinary electri-  
 cal phenomenon connected with the influx  
 of steam from the safety valve of a steam-  
 engine boiler had been observed at Seghill,  
 about six miles from Newcastle," and he  
 added, "without further preface I shall  
 proceed to narrate what I saw on the spot.  
 —There is nothing remarkable in the con-  
 struction of the boiler, which is supported  
 upon masonry in the usual way;" and he  
 states, "that the steam issued from a fis-  
 sure between the boiler and its connexion  
 with the body of the safety-valve, caus ed  
 by the packing having given way. On  
 placing one hand in the jet of steam, and  
 the other upon the boiler, a spark of elec-  
 tricity was seen, and a considerable shock  
 felt." This was first noticed by the engi-  
 neer. Mr Armstrong, possessing a mind  
 of great research, did not let this simple  
 fact lie idle, but, from a series of scientific  
 and laborious experiments, has laid before  
 the world a discovery of great importance.  
 He made a further communication to the  
 scientific world in the following November,  
 the substance of which is, that he obtained  
 sparks varying from a quarter of an inch  
 to an inch in length from all the boilers  
 he had tried experiments upon, and that

he afterwards, in conjunction with Mr Nicholson, the engineer, tried experiments on the locomotive boiler, and obtained, from the steam blowing off, abundance of electricity. He says, "In trying the steam in the first instance by standing on an insulated stool (that is, a stool with glass legs), and holding in one hand a light iron rod immediately above the safety-valve, while the steam was freely escaping, and then advancing the other hand towards any conducting body, sparks of about one inch in length were obtained, but it was soon observed that by elevating the rod in the steam the electricity was increased, and the maximum effect was not obtained until the end of the rod was raised five or six feet above the valve, at which point the length of the sparks occasionally reached two inches. In 1841 Mr Pattinson and Mr Armstrong made a joint communication to the world, calculated to afford the explanation of the phenomenon of Cramlington—see *Philos. Mag.* vol. xviii, p. 100.

Mr Armstrong about this time constructed a boiler of three feet six inches in length, with cylindrical ends, and one foot nine inches in diameter, resting on an ordinary iron framing, and the whole was supported on four glass legs. On trying the experiments he raised the steam to a pressure of 70 lbs. on the inch, and ejected the steam from a small orifice of one-tenth of an inch in diameter; there is no limitation to the number of orifices, so that more are not made than the boiler will well supply, and each orifice will give off the same quantity of electricity from the steam. The result he announced was, that from his small boiler he made a comparison with that of a plate electrical machine of three feet in diameter. The effect of this was as follows on a half-gallon Leyden jar:—

Number of spontaneous discharges of the jar per minute from the plate machine	- 29
Ditto from the boiler	- 220
being an increase in favour of the boiler of nearly 10 to 1.	

Proceeding in his experiments, Mr Armstrong has obtained sparks of a foot in length from his small boiler. One of about the size alluded to has been made for Mr Addams, the celebrated lecturer on experimental philosophy, which will be soon exhibited and lectured upon at the Royal Institution. The Polytechnic Institution, foremost on all occasions to promote the cultivation of science, without regard to expense, have ordered one for their Institution of the magnificent size of six feet by three, and it is now being made, with every improvement, under the direction of Mr Armstrong. It is presumed that it will be of 20 times the enormous power of the colossal electrical machine they have at

present. Thus it will be seen that the mighty agent, steam, is brought to bear in science as well as in power. As soon as any important result is obtained, it will be given immediately in the columns of the 'Mirror.' When matters so interesting and important are on the *tapis* we shall not be found sleeping.

### INSECTS GENERATED BY GALVANISM.

THE ACARUS GALVANICUS, OR ACARUS CROSSII.

It was discovered some years ago that certain insects, a new species of Acari, had been called into existence incidentally, by some electric experiments of Mr Crosse. These experiments have been of late successfully repeated by Mr Weekes. Mr Crosse has long been occupied in producing, artificially, various mineral substances, essentially the same as those elaborated by nature. With the conviction that electric agency was the secret instrument in the hand of nature, he was led to operate upon earthy solutions by slow voltaic action, continued without remission for weeks. He was endeavouring to obtain crystals of silica, and had prepared the following solution:—the powder of black flint, having been exposed to a red heat, was quenched in water, and then mixed with three times its weight of carbonate of potassa: after the mixture had been submitted to a furnace heat for a quarter of an hour, it was reduced to powder and dissolved in warm water. This solution, by means of a strip of flannel hanging over the edge of the basin in which it was placed, was allowed to fall in drops upon a piece of red oxide of iron, obtained from Mount Vesuvius — that mineral being chosen for no other reason than its porosity. On either side of the iron-stone rested two platinum wires, proceeding from a voltaic battery of nineteen pairs of five-inch plates excited with common water. On the fourteenth day after the commencement of the experiment Mr Crosse observed, by means of a lens, a few small whitish excrescences of nipples projecting from about the middle of the electrified stone, and near the spot on which the fluid was dropping; on the eighteenth day these excrescences enlarged, and seven or eight long filaments made their appearance on each; on the twenty-second day these appearances became more distinct; and on the twenty-sixth each figure assumed the form of a perfect insect, standing erect on a few bristles, which formed its tail. Till then Mr Crosse was not aware of the nature of the objects he had been daily contemplating: he had no notion that anything other than an incipient mineral



formation was before him; but when, on the twenty-eighth day, he perceived these little creatures move their legs, his astonishment was beyond measure great. He detached some of them from their birth-place with the point of a needle, but they invariably died, which compelled him to wait a few days, when they separated themselves, and moved to and fro at pleasure. In the course of a few weeks about a hundred made their appearance, and of these only five or six were born on the south side of the stone, the creatures having an instinctive antipathy to light, always avoiding it when possible. From among the specimens transmitted to eminent physiologists, one was presented to the French Academy, by Mr Robertson, and was carefully examined by M. Turpin, who pronounced it to be a new species of the *Acarus* race. *Acarus* (from the Greek *ἀκαρῆς*, *indivisible*) is the generic name of those creatures popularly designated mites; their characteristics, according to Latreille, being a body very soft, or without a scaly crust, and forked palpi or feelers, either concealed or very short. The species discovered by Mr Crosse, and on that account designated *Crossii*, or, from its locale, *Galvanici*, differs from the cheese-mite and the meal-mite, by the absence of the false coxset, and of the two longest and most slender joints, which precede the tarsus or terminal joint; it also differs in having its body shorter, of a more oval form, and more bent, and in having its back covered with long and numerous hairs. It is said more nearly to resemble the *Acarus dimidiatus* of Hermann, but to differ in wanting the short hairs which cover the surface of the eight limbs of the latter.

M. Turpin conceived "that the means which Mr Crosse has employed, even supposing them in this case indispensable to the appearance of the animal, have only been simply stimulants, which, like those that excite and favour the germination of a grain of wheat, have hastened the hatching of the eggs, similar to those contained in the female individual sent by Mr Crosse himself;—eggs which were laid or brought on the surface of the Vesuvian stones used in the experiment." That the success of the experiment, however, was in no degree due to the presence of the Vesuvian stone, was an early opinion of Mr Crosse, which has since been amply confirmed. The most simple solution which occurred to him was, "that they arose from ova deposited by insects floating in the atmosphere, and that they might possibly be hatched by the electric action." But it was difficult to imagine how an ovum could shoot out filaments, which eventually become bristles, nor could he, at any time,

detect the remains of a shell. He next imagined that they might have originated from the water, but no traces of them could be found in the cells of a water-battery, furnished from the same source. He now placed a *piece of brick* in a solution of silicate potassa, which was electrolyzed by a battery of sixty-three two-inch pairs. After many months, the insects appeared on the wet outside of the glass vessel containing the solution, and on the edge of the fluid within, and finally they spread about the whole surface of the table on which the apparatus stood, instinctively hiding themselves wherever they could find shelter. The table was closely examined with a lens, but *nowhere* on it could be discovered the whitish excrescence indicative of their incipient state. A piece of clay-slate was operated upon in a similar solution by a battery of twenty two-inch pairs; similar insects in their incipient state were observed forming around the edge of the fluid within the jar, which, when perfect, crawled about the inner surface of the paper cover of the jar with the greatest activity.

#### ORIGINAL PAPERS ON SCIENCE.

##### NO. II.—PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAITS.

THE origin of this most interesting and important process, must unquestionably be traced to the accidental discovery made by the alchemists of the compound now called chloride of silver, and the powerful action of the solar ray in changing it from white to black. But it does not appear that any attempts were made by them either to investigate the cause or to apply the effect.

In the year 1802, Sir H. Davy and Mr Wedgwood made a series of experiments, and which may be considered as the first systematic inquiry in the art now denominated Photography; these gentlemen could not succeed in permanently fixing the pictures they obtained, and seem to have given up the task as hopeless.

From this date nothing appears to have been done in furtherance of this art until 1814, when M. Niepce, the elder, of Chalons, on the Soane, turned his attention to the production of pictures by the agency of light, and which process he termed Heliography. Although the effects he obtained were most interesting and extraordinary, still the tedious nature of the process, and length of time requisite to produce the results, could only render the Heliographic pictures objects of curiosity without any practical utility. Subsequently M. Niepce and M. Daguerre, who, like the former, had been engaged for some time on this subject, agreed to prosecute their researches together, and the result of their labours was the discovery of the beautiful

process, absurdly named the Daguerreo-type. This was made public in the month of July, 1839, but not until Daguerre and Niepce had each obtained from the chambers a pension for themselves and widows for life, and Daguerre, in addition, had secured to himself an exclusive patent for this country—apparently in direct contradiction to the stipulation of M. Arago, that it was to be thrown open to all the world.\*

The process of Daguerre's was totally different from any attempt hitherto made, and the result altogether so extraordinary and unexpected, that it appears impossible that anything like inductive reasoning could have led to the results which it is more than probable were accidentally obtained.

The enthusiasm with which this discovery was taken up by all parties soon led the way for many improvements upon Daguerre's original process. One of the first attempts, and which with Daguerre was certainly not very successful, was that of portraits from life; the length of time necessary for the sitter to be fixed without even moving a muscle, rendered it not only exceedingly irksome, but almost impossible to perform.

Mr Woolcott, of America, was enabled greatly to diminish the length of time requisite in the process, by employing a camera, having a concave mirror or speculum, as shown in fig. 2,† which admitted of more light being thrown upon the prepared plate than by the camera, fig. 1, as employed by Daguerre.

And so successful was he in taking portraits by this mode, that a Mr Johnson was induced to bring the plan over to this country, but the difference in the two climates made a considerable alteration in the utility of the improvement. In this stage of the proceedings Mr Beard, the present patentee, embarked a considerable sum in attempts to improve the process, so that by diminishing the time, to make it available for taking miniatures from life Mr Goddard having the management of the experimental room fitted up by Mr Beard in Holborn, after some months' la-

bour succeeded in obtaining a compound, which appeared fully to answer the required end. Mr Beard then made arrangements with the directors of the Polytechnic Institution for the hire of one portion of the building in Cavendish square; Mr Beard opened the first establishment for taking miniatures by light, termed by him Photographic portraits. The extraordinary success which attended their first introduction, and the utter impossibility of executing at one establishment the numerous commissions, led him with considerable spirit and apparently regardless of expense, to open two other establishments in the metropolis, one in King William street, City, and the other in Parliament street, Westminster, together with several others in the provinces.

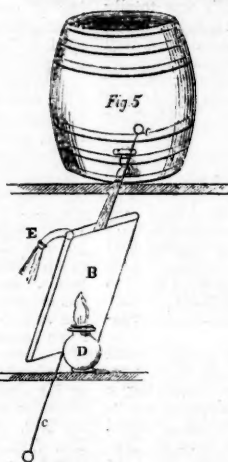
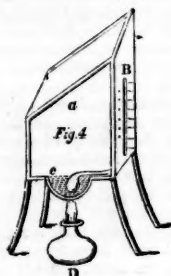
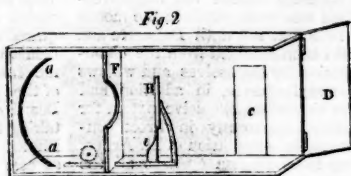
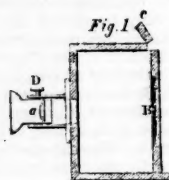
These portraits are produced only upon surfaces of silver, and great care is necessary, not only in the quality of the silver, but in the mode of finishing the surface, which must be brought to the highest possible degree of polish, for upon this much of the excellency of the picture depends.\* In rendering the plate sensitive to the influence of light, Daguerre employed the vapour of pure iodine, and if time is not an object, it is certainly equal to any of the more sensitive compounds. The compound alluded to above, as discovered by Mr Goddard, was, I believe, one of the chlorides of iodine; since then broumine has been added by other experimentalists. The former preparation is readily obtained by passing perfectly dry chlorine gas over pure and dry iodine; the two combine and form a mixture, which even in this country is so sensitive, that when applied to the plate, a very few seconds during sun light is generally sufficient, and seldom more than a minute, when the operation is practicable—for there are many days in this country, more particularly in the metropolis, in which it is useless to make the attempt from the smoke and fog.

In taking a portrait, the sitter is arranged opposite the camera, and the proper focus obtained; the plate being previously polished is placed in the frame (fig. 3), which acts as a cover to the earthenware vessel holding the sensitive compound; the plate, with the silver surface downwards, is then

\* The writer of this article, in mentioning this circumstance to a native of France, obtained a very different meaning to the expression of Arago, "*tout le monde*." "Ho!" said the Parisian, "that is a very common expression in France, but when employed it refers simply to the French as a nation!!!"

† A A is the mirror, B a stop or diaphragm for correcting the aberration; C is a small door, which is sometimes convenient in watching the state of the process; D the door at which the plate is introduced for taking the portrait.

\* The mode at present employed in making the plates is as follows:—Two similar blocks of copper have each a plate of silver soldered on the surface, the silver being then brought to a fine polish; the two silver surfaces are placed together, and extended under the rollers in the usual manner: this mode of rolling removes much of the labour formerly attendant upon polishing the plates.



exposed to the vapour evolved; this combines with the silver and causes the latter to assume a deep golden colour, almost approaching to brown; when this is obtained the plate is transferred to the camera (fig. 1 or 2); in the latter it is placed before the mirror and retained in its position by the spring E; in the former it is attached to a board and introduced at the back of the box as at B; in this position the plate receives the image formed by the light reflecting from the sitter, and then undergoes that mysterious change produced by the action of the light on those parts only of the plate on which the light had been allowed to fall, the effects being in proportion to the amount or intensity of what are termed the chemical rays; the plate, on being withdrawn from the camera, should not exhibit the slightest trace of a picture; if any should be detected, it proves that the plate was exposed for too long a time to the influence of the light, and the beauty of the picture is much diminished. The plate is now to be placed in the mercury box, fig. 4, at the bottom of which is fixed an iron pan C, containing the mercury, the plate sliding into a groove on the lid of the box; as shown at E, the mercury being heated

to 140° (Fahr.), the volatised mercury adheres only to those parts of the plate on which the light had previously acted. When the picture is fully brought out, it must be removed from the mercury box, and placed into a basin of distilled water, from thence into one holding boiling salt and water, or a cold solution of the hydro-sulphate of soda. Either of these will remove the sensitive compound from the plate, which is then transferred back to the distilled water, and finally placed on a wire frame C C, fig. 5, and introduced into the washing apparatus, fig. 5. A is a vessel of distilled water, which permits of the water flowing into the zinc or copper trough B, and passing off at the spout E. The flow of water is then turned off, and the spirit lamp A applied, which boiling the water in B, admits of the plate, by the heat thus given, when slowly withdrawn from the bath, driving off in vapour the adhering water, thus preventing the spotting so frequently observed in pouring the water simply over the plate, as recommended by Daguerre. It then only remains to place the picture in a frame and glass, and the process is completed.

B.





*Arms.* Sa on a cross engrailed between four eagles displayed, or, five lions passant, gardant of the field. *Crest.* A demi-heraldic tiger, salient sa, armed ducally, gorged and tufted or. *Supporters.* Two heraldic tigers sa, ducally gorged, tufted, maned, and tusked or. *Motto.* Per il suo contrario.

#### ORIGIN OF THE NOBLE HOUSE OF ANGLESEA.

William Paget, Serjeant at Mace of the city of London in the time of Henry the Seventh, left, with other children, a son named after himself. At the proper age William commenced his education under the celebrated Lily, in St Paul's school. He was afterwards sent to Cambridge, and entered the family of Stephen Gardiner, Bishop of Winchester. His connexion with the prelate introduced him to public business, and in the reign of Henry the Eighth he was sent to France on a somewhat curious mission, namely, to ascertain the sentiments of learned theologians there, on the subject of the king's divorce from Queen Katherine, which was then contemplated. That he acquitted himself to the satisfaction of Henry is clear, from his being afterwards employed in various delicate and important negotiations. He rose very high in King Henry's favour, who made him Secretary of State, and knighted him. In his latter days he named him one of his executors, appointed him a member of the Council to his successor, and bequeathed him the sum of 300*l*. Sir William Paget acted with the Protector Somerset. He was elected a Knight of the Garter on the 14th February, 1546-7, and summoned to Parliament as Baron Paget of Beaudeisert, county of Stafford, January 23, 1552. When Somerset was disgraced, the fortunes of Sir William Paget also gave way: the insignia of the Garter was taken from him, he was committed to the Tower, and ordered to pay a fine of 6,000*l*. This was, however, soon remitted, and he received a pardon for all offences against the crown, and of course was liberated. His opinions seem to have been flexible, for when Mary ascended the throne he espoused her cause, and obtained a seat in the Privy Council; his honours were restored, and several grants were made in his favour by the Queen, and he was appointed Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal. On her death, in 1558,

he, from choice, withdrew from public affairs. Elizabeth, according to Camden, though he was not numbered among her servants, "retained an affection and value for him, though he was a strict zealot of the Roman Catholic church." He died about five years afterwards, and was succeeded by his eldest son Henry.

The Pagets which successively inherited the honours gained by the first William Paget, acted, in many instances, a distinguished part in the public business of the periods in which they lived. Henry, the seventh Lord Paget, who had been created Baron Burton, of Burton, County Stafford, 1712, in his father's life-time, was advanced to the Earldom of Uxbridge, October 19, 1714. In 1769, the Earldom of Uxbridge and Barony of Uxbridge became extinct, but the Barony of Paget being in fee, devolved upon the eldest surviving son of the deceased Caroline Paget, daughter of Brigadier-General Thomas Paget, who was son to William, the fifth Earl. The lady had married Sir Nicholas Bayly, Bart., of Placenwyd, son and successor of Sir Edward Bayly. The son of the above-named Caroline Paget was Henry Bayly, Esq., who thereupon assumed the surname and arms of Paget alone. His lordship was created Earl of Uxbridge, May 19, 1774, and died March 13, 1812. At that date the present Marquis of Anglesey succeeded to the Earldom. His lordship was born May 17, 1768, and obtained the Marquisate by creation, June 23, 1815. The noble Marquis was twice married; first, July 25, 1795, to Caroline Elizabeth, daughter of George, fourth Earl of Jersey, who died in 1835. His lordship's second consort was Lady Charlotte Cadogan, daughter of the first Earl of Cadogan. Eight children were the offspring of the former, and six of the latter union. The public services of the noble Marquis, both in war and in peace, are too numerous to be here detailed, and too generally known to need description. He served through the Peninsula war with great distinction, and he contributed largely to the memorable triumph of Waterloo, in which, at the close of the battle, he received a wound in the knee which rendered amputation of the limb necessary.

## THE LOST LEG.

*(From the German of Tschokke.)*

IN the autumn of the year 1762, Lewis Thevenet, a surgeon at Calais, received a written invitation from an unknown individual, to come on the following morning to his country-house, which was situated on the Paris road, and to bring with him the necessary instruments for the amputation of a limb. Monsieur Thevenet was, at that time, acknowledged to be one of the most skilful men in the profession, and indeed it was no unusual thing for him to be sent for to England by those who wished to profit from his skill.

He had long been in the army, and his appearance and manners were somewhat harsh, but yet no one could help loving him, on account of his kind-heartedness and good-nature.

He was somewhat put about upon the receipt of this anonymous epistle. The time, the hour, the place, all were specified with the greatest nicety, but, as already mentioned, the letter was without a signature. "Well," thought he to himself, "some of our wags want to play me a trick, I suppose!"—So he made up his mind not to go.

Three days later the invitation was repeated, but much more pressingly, informing him, that at nine o'clock on the following morning a carriage would be sent to fetch him.

The next day, as the clock was striking nine, a neat open carriage appeared at his door. The doctor made no further ado, but entered it.

As he was getting in, he said to the coachman, "To whom are you going to take me?"

He replied in English, "Tis no concern of mine."

"So, so! an Englishman, I perceive. You are certainly a great clown," said Thevenet.

The coach moved on, and at length stopped before the door of a country house. "To whom am I going? Who lives here? Who is sick here?" exclaimed Thevenet to the coachman before he got out. The son of the whip gave him a similar reply to the one obtained before.

A young man, about eight-and-twenty, received him at the door of the house, and conducted him up-stairs into a large and handsome room. The stranger was an Englishman. The doctor addressed him in his native tongue, and was replied to in the most affable manner.

"You have sent for me, sir," said the surgeon!

"I am exceedingly obliged to you, sir, for coming," said the Englishman. "Pray make yourself quite at home. Here is coffee, chocolate, wine, or anything you

choose to partake of, before commencing the operation."

"I should first, sir, like to see the patient, and examine the injury, to ascertain whether amputation is necessary or not."

The stranger replied, "I have the greatest confidence in you. I beg you will listen to me. Here is a purse containing a hundred guineas, which I intend for you as payment for the operation: but I shall not confine myself to that small remuneration, provided you are successful in your labour. If, however, you refuse to comply with my wish, here is a heavily-loaded pistol. You are in my power, and, by heavens! I will shoot you."

"Sir, I fear not your pistol. Tell me what you want with me? Come to the point at once, without all this prefacing! What am I to do here?"

"You must take my right leg off."

"Why, sir, you are insane."

"Do not let that concern you, M. Thevenet."

"Why, what has that beautiful leg done?"

"Nothing! Have you made up your mind to take it off?"

"Sir, you are a total stranger to me. Let me have proofs of the soundness of your mind."

"Doctor, once for all, do you choose to comply with my request or not?"

"As soon, sir, as you can give me a sufficient reason for suffering yourself to be rendered a cripple for life."

"At present I must observe silence upon this point. Perhaps in a year hence the secret may out. But I'll bet, doctor, ay, and to any amount too, that you yourself will acknowledge, at the expiration of twelve months, that my motives for getting rid of this leg were of the noblest kind."

"I'll undertake nothing, sir, unless you inform me of your name, residence, family, and profession."

"You shall know all that by-and-bye. At present I can say nothing. I beg, however, you will regard me as a man of honour."

"A man of honour, sir, does not threaten his medical man with pistols. I have duties to perform, even towards you, as a stranger. I will not cripple you without an absolute necessity be shown. If you wish to become the assassin of the innocent father of a family, why then, sir, here I am, shoot me."

"No, M. Thevenet, I will not be your murderer," said the Briton, seizing his pistol, "nevertheless I will force you to amputate my limb. What you will not do to oblige me, nor for the sake of reward, nor out of fear for your life, you certainly will out of compassion."

"What do you mean, sir?"

"I will shatter my leg to pieces before your eyes with this pistol, and that immediately."

The Englishman sat himself down, took his pistol and held the mouth of it just above his knee. M. Thevenet ran to him to turn it aside. "Do not stir an inch, doctor, or I will pull the trigger. Give me a final answer to my only question: are you willing unnecessarily to lengthen out and increase my sufferings."

"My dear sir, you are mad. However, I will comply. I will take your leg off."

Everything necessary for the operation was placed in order. The young man lighted his pipe and swore it should not go out from the first incision made in his leg to its final dressing. He kept his word. The leg presently lay on the floor. The Englishman was still smoking his pipe.

M. Thevenet performed the operation in a very skilful manner, and the patient soon recovered from the effects of it. He generously rewarded his surgeon, to whom he became daily more attached. He expressed his gratitude to him with tears of joy, and returned to England the happiest of mortals, with his wooden stump. About eighteen months after the departure of the Englishman, M. Thevenet received a letter from him, the contents of which were as follow:—

"Dear Sir,—Enclosed you receive, in testimony of my grateful feelings towards you, a draft upon Monsieur Pauchaud, banker, at Paris, for the sum of two hundred and fifty guineas. You have rendered me the happiest of human beings, by depriving me of a leg which stood in the way of my earthly felicity.

"Excellent man! Learn now the reason of my foolish whim, as you were pleased to call it. You thought proper to assert that no reasonable motive could be advanced for crippling myself for life. I offered to lay you a wager about it. It was fortunate for you that you did not accept it. After my second return from the East Indies, I became acquainted with the most accomplished of women in the person of Emily Harley. I adored her. Her fortune and family connexions were evident to my relations: to me, only her beauty and her all-accomplished mind. I mingled with a host of her admirers. Ah! my dearest Thevenet, I was happy enough to be the most miserable of my rivals; she loved me—me above all the rest—she did not conceal it, and, on that very account rejected me. In vain did I seek to obtain her hand; in vain did her parents; her friends even interceded for me. She remained immovable. It was long before I could ascertain the cause of her unwillingness to go to the altar with me, though

she confessed her sincere love. One of her sisters at length divulged the secret. Miss Harley was a prodigy of beauty, but she had but one leg, and on this account she feared to become my partner for life. She trembled at the idea that I might think lightly of her for it.

"My resolution was taken in an instant. I resolved to become like her. Thanks to you, dearest Thevenet, I am now so.

"I returned to London with my wooden leg. It had already been noised abroad that through a fall from my horse I had broken my leg, and was under the necessity of having it taken off; indeed I had already written to England to the same effect. When Emily saw me for the first time after my return, she instantly fainted. For a long time she was inconsolable,—but she became my wife. It was not till the day after the wedding that I made her acquainted with the sacrifice I had made to obtain the object of my wishes. This served but to increase her affection for me. O noble Thevenet, if I had ten legs to lose, I would suffer the loss of them all without moving a muscle, for my dearest Emily.

"As long as I live I shall feel grateful to you. Come and pay us a visit in London, form an acquaintance with my amiable partner, and then tell me if you are still of the same opinion, and if you think I am a fool!"

"Yours truly,

"CHARLES TEMPLE."

M. Thevenet often told the above anecdote to his friends, joined in many a hearty laugh over it, and generally concluded by saying, "He is a fool after all!"

The following is a copy of his answer:—

"Sir,—I am obliged to you for your very kind present. Such I consider it, for I can by no means call it payment for my insignificant services.

"I wish you much happiness upon your marriage with the fair Briton. The loss of a leg is a great, a very great sacrifice, for a beautiful, virtuous, and amiable wife, yet, perhaps, not too great, if in the end we are not deceived. Adam obtained possession of his wife through the loss of a rib, other men have obtained their object with the loss of their heads.

"But allow me, my dear sir, after taking everything into consideration, to adhere to my old opinion. Perhaps, I grant it, for the present, you are in the right: yours is now the paradise of the matrimonial honey-moon. But my opinion is the right one, depend upon it, but with this difference; my opinion, like every other truth which we reluctantly receive, is slow in ripening.

"Now, my dear sir, mind what I am about to say: I am afraid that in the course of a couple of years you will begin

to repent having your leg taken off above the knee. You will think it might as well have been below the knee. In three years you will feel convinced that the loss of the foot would have been quite enough. In four years you will say, ah! I wish I had only consented to have parted from my great toe; in five years you will think the little toe would have been quite enough as a sacrifice; and in six years you will be prepared to confess to me that the paring of your toe-nails would have been quite sufficient.

"I say all this without the slightest prejudice to your beloved partner. Women can preserve their beauty and their virtue much longer than men can their opinions. In my youthful years I would have sacrificed my life for the sake of my beloved, but not the loss of a limb; the former I should never have repented of, but the latter all the days of my life. For if I had done it, I should ever say to myself, Thevenet, you were a fool. In so saying allow me to have the honour to remain,

"Your obedient servant,

"G. THEVENET."

In the year 1793, during the Reign of Terror, M. Thevenet, who had been brought into suspicion with the aristocracy by a young surgeon, fled to London to escape the knife of the all-destroying guillotine.

In order to pass away his time he inquired after Sir Charles Temple. He soon found him, and was graciously received. In a well-stuffed, easy arm-chair, before a rousing fire, with his wine beside him on the table, and surrounded by twenty newspapers, sat a corpulent gentleman; he could scarcely rise from his chair, he was so lusty. "Bless my stars! M. Thevenet; welcome, thrice welcome," exclaimed the stout gentleman, who was no other person than Sir Charles himself. "What, is it really you, doctor? Excuse my getting up, but this cursed wooden leg of mine is always in the way. Perhaps, friend, you have come to see whether your opinion is ripe yet?"

"I am come rather, sir, as a refugee, to seek protection."

"Come, then, and welcome; you shall live along with me, for indeed and in truth you are a wise man. Had it not been for this most unfortunate wooden leg of mine, M. Thevenet, which has rendered me useless for all active service, I might this very day have been Admiral of the Blue. Here I sit, reading the papers to see how things are going on, and curse myself black and blue because I cannot mix myself up with them. Do, doctor, come and comfort me."

"Your dear partner will be better able to console you than I can."

"Not she, indeed. Her wooden leg hin-

ders her from dancing, and so she gives herself up to card-playing and to talking scandal. Indeed there is no agreeing with her; but, however, she is a good wife."

"Why, then, it appears I have been in the right all along."

"Yes, perfectly so, dear Thevenet, but do not let us talk about it now. I have done a very foolish action. If I had but my leg again, I would not give up the paring of a single nail! Between you and me, I have been a fool, but keep this confession to yourself. "T. H. N."

### THE CHINESE, THEIR RELIGION AND LANGUAGE.

So little has hitherto been known of China, that everything connected with their habits and manners is read and listened to with eagerness. Of their religion and language we have much before us that is curious. Sketches of both will entertain.

#### BOODHISM.

The principal religion of China is Buddhism or Boodhism, which also prevails over Birmah, Siam, Ceylon, Japan, and Cochinchina. The founder of this religion is said to have been a son of the King of Benares, who flourished about 600 years B.C., and that he had, in various ages, ten incarnations. The Boodhists do not believe in a First Cause; they think matter eternal; that every portion of animated existence has its own rise, tendency, and destiny, *in itself*; that the condition of creatures on earth is regulated by works of merit and demerit; that works of merit raise us to happiness and the world to prosperity; while those of vice and demerit degenerate the world, until the universe itself is dissolved. They suppose a superior deity, raised to that rank by his merit; but he is not Governor of the World. To the present period they assign five deities, four of whom have already appeared, the last being *Gandama* or *Boodh*, whose pre-eminence continues 5,000 years, 2,384 of which are gone by. At the end of his 5,000 years another saint will obtain the supremacy. Six hundred millions of human souls are said to be canonized with each deity, but Boodh took only 24,000 of his company to heaven with him. The lowest estate is hell—the next, souls in the forms of brutes; and both these are states of punishment. The state above is probationary—that of MAN; and still above degrees of honour and happiness, up to deities, and demi-gods to which man, if found worthy, ascends; or, on the contrary, goes into the lower states of punishment. The Boodhists believe there are four superior heavens; below these, twelve other heavens, with six other inferior heavens. After these comes the Earth; then the world of snakes; then

thirty-two chief hells, and one hundred and twenty hells of lesser torment. The Buddhists believe that persons who obtain a knowledge of things past, present, and to come, have the power of rendering themselves invisible, and are absorbed into the Deity. Those who perform works of merit become great among men, and are received into some of the heavens, in all of which the enjoyments are sensual. But those who do evil, go into a hell proportioned to their crimes. They believe that at the end of a "Kulpu,"—a length of time too great for human calculation—the universe will be destroyed. Five commands are delivered to common Buddhists,—not to destroy animal life; to avoid theft, adultery, falsehood, and the use of spirituous liquors. Other commands, restraining dress, luxury, &c., are given to the higher classes. They all consider their adoration as paid to a being or beings of exalted merit—not to a Creator. Priests worship daily in the temples, and are forbidden to marry. Many of the Chinese consider the Grand Lama as the highest priest on earth. This pontifex maximus resides in Thibet, and the Tartar population of China pay him homage.

To us the Chinese seem barbarous. It need not be told that they return the compliment, and with ominous interest. Their intolerable arrogance, and the contemptuous outrage they thought they might venture on with impunity, were the proximate causes of the chastisement they have received from British arms. With all the apparent defects, however, the system of China has admirers. Teen-ke-shee, one of its philosophers, thus exultingly felicitates himself on the circumstance of his being a son of the Celestial Empire:—

"I felicitate myself that I was born in China! It constantly occurs to me, what if I had been born beyond the sea, in some remote part of the earth, where the cold freezes, or the heat scorches; where the people are clothed with the leaves of plants, eat wood, dwell in the wilderness, lie in holes of the earth, are far removed from the converting maxims of the ancient kings, and are ignorant of the domestic relations. Though born as one of the generation of men, I should not have been different from a beast. But how happily I have been born in China! I have a house to live in, have drink and food, and commodious furniture. I have clothing and caps, and infinite blessings. Truly the highest felicity is mine."

"The Chinese language," D'Israeli says, "is like no other on the globe; it is said to contain not more than about three hundred and thirty words, but it is by no means monotonous, for it has four accents, the even, the raised, the lessened, and the

returning, which multiply every word into four; as difficult," says Mr Astle, "for an European to understand as it is for a Chinese to comprehend the six pronunciations of the French e." In fact, they can so diversify their monosyllabic words by the different tones which they give them, that the same character, differently accented, signifies sometimes ten or more different things.

P. Bourgeois, one of the missionaries, attempted, after ten months' residence at Peking, to preach in the Chinese language. These are the words of the good father—God knows how much this first Chinese sermon cost me! I can assure you this language resembles no other. The same word has never but one termination; and then adieu to all that in our declensions distinguishes the gender and the number of things we would speak; adieu, in the verbs, to all which might explain the active person, how and in what time it acts, if it acts alone, or with others: in a word, with the Chinese, the same word is substantive, adjective, verb, singular, plural, masculine, feminine, &c. It is the person who hears who must arrange the circumstances, and guess them. Add to all this, that all the words of this language are reduced to three hundred and a few more; that they are pronounced in so many different ways, that they signify eighty thousand different things, which are expressed by as many different characters. This is not all: the arrangement of all these monosyllables appears to be under no general rule; so that to know the language after having learnt the words, we must learn every particular phrase: the least inversion would make you unintelligible to three parts of the Chinese.

"I will give you an example of their words: they told me *chou* signifies a book; so that I thought whenever the word *chou* was pronounced, a book was the subject. Not at all! *Chou*, the next time I heard it, I found signified a tree. Now, I was to recollect *chou* was a book or a tree. But this amounted to nothing; *chou*, I found, expressed also great heats; *chou* is to relate; *chou* is the Aurora; *chou* means to be accustomed; *chou* expresses the loss of a wager, &c. I should not finish, were I to attempt to give you all its significations.

"Notwithstanding these singular difficulties, could one but find a help in the perusal of their books, I should not complain; but this is impossible! Their language is quite different from that of simple conversation. What will ever be an insurmountable difficulty to every European is the pronunciation; every word may be pronounced in five different tones, yet every tone is not so distinct that an unpractised ear can easily distinguish it.



These monosyllables fly with amazing rapidity; then they are continually disguised by elisions, which sometimes hardly leave anything of two monosyllables. From an aspirated tone you must pass immediately to an even one: from a whistling note to an inward one: sometimes your voice must proceed from the palate: sometimes it must be guttural, and always nasal. I recited my sermon at least fifty times to my servant, before I spoke it in public; and yet I am told, though he continually corrected me, that of the ten parts of the sermon (as the Chinese express themselves), they hardly understood three. Fortunately the Chinese are wonderfully patient, and are astonished that any ignorant stranger should be able to learn two words of it."

#### MESMERISM EXTRAORDINARY.

A Mr Spencer T. Hall has lately been entertaining a select party at Barker-gate Chapel, Nottingham. Some little interruption was given to the performance by a Mr Noyes, who would not be *quiet*. A very fine exhibition was at last presented.

A man named Wilmot, a file-cutter, of Sheffield, a favourite, came forward, and in one minute was mesmerised.

Mr Hall expressed his willingness to touch any bump required, in order that a manifestation might follow. (Applause.)

Mr Goodacre assured the lecturer that all which had been said on his side of the house, by Mr Noyes, himself, and those around him, was simply with a view to elicit truth.

A voice—I tell you what, you respectables, I wish you would hold your *noise* a bit. (Laughter.)

Wilmot was capital; he sung, and stamped, and spouted. On the organ of elocution being touched, up he sprung, and accompanied with theatrical attitude, he spoke from beginning to end, not omitting gesture and various movements of the hand and head, the well-known piece

"Sad stood Eliza on the wood-crowned height,  
O'er Minden's plain, spectatress of the fight."

And when he came to the passage, "They run, they run," he stepped forward so far and so hastily, though held by Mr Hall, as nearly to step off the platform. Occasionally he made a sudden stop, owing to the pressure on the organ ceasing, but on its being resumed, he invariably commenced at the place he had left off at, and proceeded without faltering or mistake to the end, in a tone that might have been heard outside the chapel.

Mr Noyes remarked, this was too good. (Uproar.)

Mr Goodacre said the circumstances reminded him of the tale of the stone lion on Northumberland house. One day, a wag declared that he saw the lion wag its tail, and very soon afterwards the Strand was crowded by hundreds who worked their imagination to believe that they also really saw the phenomenon, and that the lion actually wagged its tail! (Laughter.)

Mr Hall then touched the largely developed organ of adoration, when down went Wilmot on his knees, with an effect upon the audience almost equal to an electric shock. (Enthusiastic applause.)

A voice—Now, what do you think of your lion's tail? (Tremendous laughter.)

#### THE ACTRESS NUN.

Mrs Wood, formerly Miss Paton, the singer, has retired into a convent in Yorkshire. Report gave out that this was in consequence of ill-usage from Mr Wood, but the lady has written a letter declaring her husband to have been always most kind and indulgent. On a former occasion there were rumours abroad that unkindness from another had caused the attachment which sprung up between her and Mr Wood, and the following verses, supposed to have reference to it, appeared in one of the journals:—

##### THE SLIGHTED ONE.

I sought not wealth—I sought not fame—

Before unloosed the maiden zone;

Nor did I ask to bear his name,

I gave up all for love alone;

The world's reflections I could bear,

My gold spent unrequining see,

Such matters were not worth my care,

For he was all the world to me.

But when inconstant, harsh, and cold,

He learned my fondness to despise,

'Twas then that Grief to Reason told

How vast had been my sacrifice.

May's glory fell on hill and glade,

And flowers embellished every tree;

But this bright scene, alas! was made

A cheerless wilderness to me.

What then remained?—To bear the smart?

To groan in uncomplaining woe?

And suffer with a throbbing heart

Th' averted eye, the taunt, or blow;

No, from this bosom, warm and true,

His dearly-cherished image torn,

I resolutely from me threw,

And threw it with a woman's scorn.

The world must judge me as it may,

But ere you call me fickle one,

Prudes of severest virtue say,

"O, tell me what would you have done?"

When bounteous love wakes grovelling spite,

Such baseness, ere we press the sod,

Nature commands us to requite,

And Nature's voice is that of God.

**The Catcher.**

**New Invention.**—On Wednesday, Mr Longbottom, the Secretary of the Polytechnic Institution, submitted for public exhibition an instrument for displaying opaque objects by the oxyhydrogen light, a desideratum long looked for in the scientific world. The pictures produced by the Daguerreotype, Photographic, and Calotype arts, busts, drawings, paintings, &c. &c., can be viewed under the magnifying power of this instrument.

**Alcohol.**—An experiment has been made at the Theatre of Montpellier, of a new principle of lighting—from alcohol. It is important to the vine-growing districts of France, as a fresh vent for their produce. The light is stated to be of dazzling brightness, and without either odour or smoke.

**Bees.**—At the Entomological Society a paper was lately read by the president, Mr Newport, proving that bees are enabled to distinguish their own hives by the sight only, not by their peculiar scent or the sounds created by their inmates.

**National Taste in Building.**—A military people delight in pavilions; in the Tuileries the line of tents is terminated with two, distinguished by the name of Pavilions de Flore and Marsau. A maritime people delight in their ships: the English apartments convey the idea of "between decks," and the larger buildings are often like the man-of-war hulk laid up in ordinary. In Russia the palaces have the air of barracks; vast and forlorn, they remind the spectator of the plains of Siberia. In Egypt, the Troglodite excavation was revealed in the temple palace; in Greece, the log house in the temple structure; in China, still the tent, in its simplest form.

**Hardening of Matter.**—Not more does the strong limbs of the ostrich differ from the soft yolk where it was matured than does the full-grown plant from the speck generally out of which it is elaborately formed by the inscrutable powers of nature. Wonderful is the process in either case! In the one we have a gigantic framework of hard bones derived from a little fluid and delicate membrane; in the other, we have timber still harder and more enduring, the beginning of which was a speck of gum.

**Matrimony in Ancient Times.**—The Spartan marriages took place by stealth and in the silence of night. When matters were arranged by means of the female friend who acted as the match-maker, the lover stole into the chamber of his mistress, and the union was completed. No signs appeared in his conduct of what had taken place; he lived in public as usual; and if he was seen at any time stealing towards the habitation of his mistress-

wife, he was exposed to the rude raillery and laconic jests of his comrades. The inventions, the stratagems, the escapes, the doubts, hopes and fears—the thousand feelings and adventures of forbidden love—continued to the last to lend their stimulus and charm to this romantic union.

**Couch-Grass.**—It is not generally known that this pest (*Triticum repens*), may be easily got rid of by trenching. If care be taken to bury all the roots at least six inches deep, they will never again reach the surface. It is a much cheaper and more effectual method, even in field-culture, than the tedious and imperfect one of ploughing, scarifying, and harrowing.

—**Lusor.**

**The Sexton and his Wife.**—A provincial paper mentions that a few days ago, at Laverstocke, Wilts, died John Hayter, at the age of 73. Some years ago his wife died, and he being clerk of the parish, dug his wife's grave, officiated as clerk at her funeral, covered her over with earth and made her fast when service was over. After that he ordered his own coffin, which he kept in his house, until the same solemn ceremony was performed for him. What the rural Editor means by "made her fast" is involved in some doubt; there was nothing very remarkable in making a dead woman fast! Could he indeed have made her quick, John Hayter would have been a clever fellow.

**Kite-flying.**—The Chinese are said to exceed all other nations in kite-flying. As a nation their superiority in this respect may be unquestionable, but it is believed there are individuals in the city of London who would beat the best kite-flyer in the Celestial Empire.

**St Marylebone Bank for Savings, No. 6 Welbeck street.**—It appears, from the several Reports read to the meeting last week, to have made a satisfactory progress, no less than 2,386 new deposits having been made in the last year. 13,349 deposit accounts remained open on the 20th of November last, of which no less than 8,536 held balances averaging less than 4l. 10s. 2d. each. More than 283,382l. was at that time invested with the Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt. This amount has since risen to 293,982l., and is still rapidly on the advance. This proves that the working classes are willing, and happily, in many cases, able to save.

**Eccentric Charitable Bequest.**—Bequest to awaken Sleepers, and whip Dogs out of Church.—Amongst other directions mentioned in the deed of bequest, 23rd August, 1659, whereby Richard Dovey, of Farmcote, granted certain premises to John Sanders, and others, viz. cottages or buildings, over and adjoining the churchyard

and churchyard gates of the parish church of Claverley, is to place in some room of the said cottages, and to pay yearly the sum of 8s. to a poor man of that parish who should undertake to awaken sleepers, and to whip out dogs from the church of Claverley during divine service.

**Capital Punishments.**—The executions in New South Wales in the year 1830 exceeded the whole number of executions in England and Wales in the same year; which, taking the proportion of the populations of the countries, it was calculated, made capital punishments upwards of three hundred and twenty-five times as frequent as in the mother country. What proportion would they bear to those inflicted under our present life-sparing system?

**The late Gales.**—Upon reference to Lloyd's books and other authentic documents, it appears that the number of vessels lost during the hurricane of the 13th ult. was about 180, and that the number of persons who perished with them 453. On the coast of England 154 vessels were wrecked, and 190 lives lost; on the coast of Ireland, five vessels, with 104 lives; on the coast of Scotland, 17 vessels, with 39 lives; and on the coast of France four vessels and 100 lives. The value of the vessels and cargoes have been roughly estimated at 585,000*l*. On the three following days after the 13th, numerous other wrecks occurred, to the extent of nearly 60, the losses on which were upwards of 240,000*l*; this, with the others, making a total of 825,000*l*.

**Boz and the Americans.**—The following passages form part of a commentary on "Notes on America," by Mr Ritchie, said to be "one of the oldest and most amiable and kind-hearted of American editors, who speaks as follows:—'We have read the work with disappointment, regret, much disgust, and we must add, some indignation.' We expected from Mr Dickens's talent, and the professions of gratitude he evinced, a much better production—more just in its views of American society—more liberal in its temper—more worthy of him and of ourselves. We had admired many of his works—and, we confess, liked the man. But the present production will lose him friends in America. It will nearly cut off the whole region of the south, once his most ardent admirers, from the circle of his readers.'"

**Cicero and Cæsar.**—Cicero had nineteen villas, and it was in one of these that Cæsar honoured him with a morning call, and paid him the very high compliment of taking a vomit in order that he might do justice to his lunch. In another he delighted to ornament his library with Greek paintings and sculptures, which his friend Herodas Atticus was collecting for him.

**Goethe, Scott, and Byron.**—Goethe did not enthusiastically admire Scott's novels; he seemed to think that he could easily have manufactured plenty like them, had he been desirous of money-making. He usually spoke of Lord Byron with great affection.

—Mr Gregory declares the opposition given to him when he came forward as *Hamlet*, was got up by blacklegs and others who had fallen under the lash of the 'Satirist.' He censures Bartley with bitterness for stopping the performance, declares the malcontents would soon have been put down, and claims a new trial.

### PETER AND "THE POULTRY."

A fib when Simon Peter told  
The poultry shocked at speech untrue;  
To shame the base apostle bold,  
Thrice, one brave Cock, against him crew.

A modern Peter tells a bounce,  
Would make a horse or donkey start;  
But no Cock dare the sin denounce,  
"The Poultry" seems to take his part.

'Tis fit the public to acquaint  
What gives Sir Peter his excuse:  
The poultry then attacked a saint,  
"The Poultry" now supports a goose.—Lynx.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*T. S. A.'s Poem we are obliged to divide. The conclusion will appear in our next*

*We are obliged to the Gentleman who dates from Frith street for his hints, and intend to avail ourselves of his friendly offer.*

*The verses on "Spring," with lines on "A Summer Evening," "True Happiness," "The Immortality of the Soul," and the "Epitaph on the Grey Mare," are declined, with thanks.*

*A. L. next week.*

*"Common Sense" we really do not understand. "Points of Law" originally appeared in 'The Mirror.' The 'Penny Satirist' is not the only publication that has quoted it without acknowledgment.*

*An Old Slager we are inclined to think right in saying there is something ludicrous in the announcement of the benefit of a theatrical proprietor, lessor, or manager, as for his benefit the doors are presumed to open every night. Mr Macready, without caring to go against the stream, has made a very great satirical hit at the practice, by announcing for his benefit "Much Ado about Nothing."*

*Reviews of Books intended for our present number are unavoidably postponed till next week.*

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